

### AN ILLEGAL PRACTITIONER GONE.

What can be done by one determined man was well illustrated recently at Santa Barbara. A man by the name of Palmer came there and started a "kiropractic" school—whatever that may be. He really came there to practice medicine; unfortunately, for him, he had no license to practice. Dr. Joseph A. Andrews determined that Palmer should go. Correspondence with the Board of Examiners resulted in placing in the hands of Dr. Andrews the necessary information as to how to proceed, get evidence, etc., and of this Dr. Andrews made good use. It was a very difficult matter, however, to get the right sort of evidence, for, as Dr. Andrews says, "those who had been his victims were unwilling to testify, and thus, as they declared, let people know they had been 'taken in,' and others, who had denounced Palmer, when it came to act against him, suddenly experienced a loss of memory. . . . I learned of the case of a farmer, whom I knew, who had paid Palmer \$15 for medical treatment. I had to ride twenty-five miles to get his evidence, but I got it." That was on Saturday; on Monday morning Dr. Andrews had Palmer arrested. The man agreed to leave the State, so the trial was set a week ahead, and no effort was made to bring him back when the case was called and it was found that he had left. He went to Chicago, it is said. This simply shows what a man who is determined may do. There are a whole lot of illegal practitioners in the State who might be run out if the effort was made. The JOURNAL certainly takes much pleasure in congratulating Dr. Andrews.

### FUN WITH THE FOREIGNERS.

A California bachelor maid has been spending the last two years in travel in Europe, having a lady's maid as her only companion. In a certain city she went to a hotel much frequented by English nobles, and was there taken sick. The hotel physician, a young English commoner, was summoned. He made a very careful examination and finally pronounced a diagnosis that was reassuring to the Californian, and she spoke her thanks and expressed her satisfaction at knowing that she was not desperately ill. In reply the young Englishman said: "Madame, I assure you that I am treating you as seriously as I would one of my titled patients." Now, the Californian has a delicious laugh, and it began to struggle to the surface. The English commoner looked on puzzled, when the maid, knowing that the laughter would out, hurried him from the room to avoid his being present at a "nervous attack."

The Californian once, at a very formal dinner in Switzerland, was asked by a Swiss surgeon to explain to him, "carefully, fully and slowly," the exact status of women physicians in America. This she chanced to be not able to do, but she told him, wickedly, that in Chicago they were called by the irreverent "hen medicos." Of course this barbarous term demanded definition, and once it had been satisfactorily explained a flood of light burst on the Swiss surgeon. "Oh, yes," he said, "I understand; it is *medicin a la poulette*."

The JOURNAL wishes to offer its sincere apologies to Dr. J. A. Hughes for stating, in the last number, that he had been appointed a member of the Board of Health. The Hughes appointed to this enviable position is Dr. J. V. Hughes, and lest there should be any misunderstanding, it may be stated that it is, more particularly, John V., and not James V., Hughes. We sincerely trust that both Dr. J. A. Hughes and Dr. James V. Hughes will excuse us and accept our assurance that there was no intention on our part to thus place them in a false light.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

### CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

SACRAMENTO, CAL., February 5, 1904.

*To the Editor of the State Journal:* Last September the State Board of Health held a Sanitary Conference with the local health officers of the State at San Francisco. A permanent organization was effected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Paso Robles at 10 a. m., April 18, 1904, the day before the meeting of the State Medical Society.

This conference is purely of a sanitary nature, having nothing to do with the practice of medicine or its different schools. It is called at the time of the State Medical Society meeting on account of the number of doctors who will be there, making it possible to get a greater attendance. Every physician, no matter of what school, and every health officer or other person interested in the sanitary condition of the State is urged to be present. Papers will be presented on different sanitary subjects, and free discussion held. There will also be a report on needed sanitary legislation.

This board would greatly appreciate any effort on the part of the medical journals of the State to call attention to the conference and secure a large attendance.

Respectfully,

N. K. FOSTER, Sec'y State Board of Health.

### A COMMERCIAL OPINION.

*To the Editor of the State Journal:* I have read with a great deal of interest the marked editorials to which you call my attention in the February number of the CALIFORNIA STATE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE, and I must admire you for the firm and vigorous stand you have taken. You say in effect: "So long as the law stands, it must be observed. If it is an unjust law, then have it repealed. If we permit it to stand, and still ignore it, we are bringing all law and all ethics into disrepute and undermining the whole fabric of society." That this position is sound and tenable cannot be gainsaid. Please accept my honest congratulations. Yours very truly,

This is the opinion of a gentleman connected with one of the largest and best manufacturing houses in the United States.

### A LETTER.

Some how or other, there do seem to be more kicks than kisses in the world, and more thorns on the stem than the rose is allowed, by law, to wear. Ordinarily we consider the kicks—and do the best we can—while discounting the kisses. The following letter, apparently personal, is really addressed to every member of the society who thinks right, and we believe that it is therefore addressed to a very large majority of the members. For that reason it is published, and also for the reason that the ratio of the incentive to write a complimentary letter as against the incentive to write a complaint, is about the ratio of 1 to x to the nth power:

*"To the Editor of the State Journal:* My first copy of your JOURNAL is at hand. I am a new member of the Los Angeles County Society and a long-time member of the Massachusetts Medical Society. My object in writing is to thank you most heartily for that splendid courage which has dared to put 'right before dollars.' I have always made it my rule not to use any medicines which did not declare the formula. You deserve the plaudits and everlasting gratitude of every physician for your position on the advertising question. Yours truly,

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